Meeting of States Parties

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Twenty-eighth Meeting
New York, 11–14 June 2018

Decisions on budgetary matters of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea for 2019–2020

1. The Meeting of States Parties, having considered the draft budget proposals of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea for 2019–2020 (SPLOS/2018/WP.1), approved the amount of €20,521,200 as the budget of the Tribunal for 2019–2020, on the basis of annex I to the above-mentioned document and in the light of a decrease of €28,500 in the budget line "Pension in payment", as indicated by the Registrar in his report to the Meeting.

2. Pursuant to regulation 5.3 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the Tribunal (SPLOS/120), the contributions of States parties for each of the two years of the biennium 2019–2020 shall be determined on the basis of half of the appropriations adopted by the Meeting of States Parties for that financial period.

3. The Meeting took note with satisfaction of the report on budgetary matters for the financial periods 2015–2016 and 2017–2018 (SPLOS/318). On the basis of that report, the Meeting noted that the cash surplus for the financial period 2015–2016 amounted to –€183,676 and that, since that amount is negative, no funds would be surrendered to States parties, in accordance with financial regulation 4. In this respect, the Meeting drew the attention of the States Parties to the need to pay their contributions in full and in a timely manner.

4. The Meeting requested the Registrar to submit a report, at its next meeting, on the future projections of the section of the budget relating to judges' pension scheme, on the basis of the decision on Pension Scheme Regulations for Members of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (SPLOS/47) and other relevant decisions taken by the Meeting of States Parties.

5. The Meeting encouraged the Registrar to continue to manage the funds prudently and efficiently, seeking to achieve optimum utilization of the financial resources of the Tribunal.

6. The Meeting authorized the Registrar to make transfers between appropriation sections pursuant to financial regulation 4.6, to the extent that that was necessary to cover expenses relating to cases submitted to the Tribunal.

7. The Meeting decided that, without prejudice to the application of the provisions of article 19 of annex VI to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea in respect of future budgets of the Tribunal regarding the contribution to be made by the

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International Seabed Authority, the budget of the Tribunal for 2019–2020 would be financed by all States parties to the Convention. The European Union indicated that its agreed contribution to the budget of the Tribunal would be €92,500 for each year.

8. The Meeting also decided that a floor rate of 0.01 per cent and a ceiling rate of 22 per cent were to be used in establishing the rate of assessment of States parties for the budget of the Tribunal for 2019–2020.